

# RECOMMENDATIONS

The Commission for Economic Development will continue its efforts to promote the development of California's economy and urges California's Legislature and Governor to take action on the following recommendations.

## AEROSPACE

- Monitor military base closures and work with California's Congressional Delegation to ensure that the BRAC process does not eliminate vital California assets.
- Create bipartisan congressional support to fully fund the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter program.

## AGRICULTURE

- Support agricultural industry efforts to reduce global tariffs on California-grown products by providing documented priorities to federal negotiators as they prepare for the December 2005 trade ministerial conference in Hong Kong.

## ENERGY

- Develop and support legislation to advance long-term renewable energy goals and innovation in renewable technologies.

## ENTERTAINMENT

- Restore funding for *Film California First*, an incentive program that attempted to keep more film and television production in California. Before its elimination in 2003, that program had benefited 3,500 productions over a two-year period by rebating certain production costs associated with filming on state-owned lands.

## HOUSING

- Increase by 400 percent the amount of funding appropriated by the California Department of Housing and Community Development to promote home ownership and to provide informational materials on programs for first-time homebuyers.

## MANUFACTURING

- Support the reinstatement of a Manufacturer's Investment Credit (MIC) to provide an exemption for purchases of new equipment. A study by the Milken Institute found that a five-percent reduction in sales tax for the purchase of manufacturing equipment would create 500,000 manufacturing jobs over 10 years.

## MARITIME

- Create a joint state and federal authority to address investment in port infrastructure improvements, security and traffic congestion, especially along the Interstate 710 route surrounding the Los Angeles/Long Beach port area.
- Work with environmental, business, port, union and law enforcement stakeholders to establish appropriate protocols for new technology that scans more containers thoroughly and provides greater port security, while also addressing privacy concerns.

## TECHNOLOGY

- Expand the manufacturers' tax credit to include technology firms that wish to upgrade or purchase equipment to make them more globally competitive.

## TOURISM

- Restore funding to the California Travel and Tourism Commission for the promotion of the state's tourism industry and explore creative methods to "sell California."

## TRADE

- Restore official California "trade office" status to the newly created public-private Business Forum offices – the California-China Business Forum-Beijing, the California-China Business Forum-Hong Kong and the California-Taiwan Business Forum.